



141 Main Street, East Berlin

Methodist parsonage (behind the church)

1985 Townwide Historic and Architectural Survey of Berlin, Connecticut. Survey # 085

1890 Methodist-Episcopal Parsonage

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY
BUILDING AND STRUCTURES
 HIST-6 NEW 5/77

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
 CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 59 SOUTH PROSPECT STREET, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
 (203) 566-3005

#085

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
Town No.:	Site No.:
UTM:	
QUAD:	
DISTRICT	IF NR. SPECIFY
<input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> NR	<input type="checkbox"/> Actual <input type="checkbox"/> Potential


IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIPTION

1. BUILDING NAME (Common)		(Historic)	
Methodist Episcopal Parsonage		Methodist Episcopal Parsonage	
2. TOWN/CITY	VILLAGE	COUNTY	
Berlin	East Berlin	Hartford	
3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location)		17-4/151A/34	
4. OWNER(S)		139 Main Street	
Trustees of Methodist Episcopal Church		East Berlin 06023	
5. USE (Present)		(Historic)	
Parsonage		Parsonage	
6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC:		IF YES, EXPLAIN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
7. STYLE OF BUILDING		DATE OF CONSTRUCTION	
Victorian Vernacular		c. 1890	
8. MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clapboard <input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Siding <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brick <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle <input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt Siding <input type="checkbox"/> Foundation <input type="checkbox"/> Fieldstone <input type="checkbox"/> Board & Batten <input type="checkbox"/> Stucco <input type="checkbox"/> Cobblestone <input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum Siding <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Type: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Cut stone Type: _____			
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wood frame <input type="checkbox"/> Post and beam <input type="checkbox"/> balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Load bearing masonry <input type="checkbox"/> Structural iron or steel <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____			
10. ROOF (Type)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gable <input type="checkbox"/> Flat <input type="checkbox"/> Mansard <input type="checkbox"/> Monitor <input type="checkbox"/> sawtooth <input type="checkbox"/> Gambrel <input type="checkbox"/> Shed <input type="checkbox"/> Hip <input type="checkbox"/> Round <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ (Material) N/A (not on street; behind church) <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle <input type="checkbox"/> Roll Asphalt <input type="checkbox"/> Tin <input type="checkbox"/> Slate <input type="checkbox"/> Gable end to the street <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asphalt shingle <input type="checkbox"/> Built up <input type="checkbox"/> Tile <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Ridge parallel to the street			
11. NUMBER OF STORIES		APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS	
2 1/2		26' x 27'	
12. CONDITION (Structural)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated			
13. INTEGRITY (Location)		WHEN? (Alterations) IF YES, EXPLAIN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On original site <input type="checkbox"/> Moved		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES			
<input type="checkbox"/> Barn <input type="checkbox"/> Shed <input type="checkbox"/> Garage <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other landscape features or buildings (Specify) behind church <input type="checkbox"/> Carriage house <input type="checkbox"/> Shop <input type="checkbox"/> Garden			
15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT			
<input type="checkbox"/> Open land <input type="checkbox"/> Wood-land <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Residential <input type="checkbox"/> Scattered buildings visible from site <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Indus-trial <input type="checkbox"/> Rural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High building density			
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS			
Behind Methodist Episcopal Church			

085

PHOTO COMPIL - D.B.	PHOTOGRAPHER HRC		DATE 11/84
	VIEW NE	NEGATIVE ON FILE D10	
	NAME Historic Resource Consultants The Colt Armory		DATE 12/84
	ADDRESS 55 Van Dyke Avenue Hartford, Connecticut 06250		
20 SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATION:			



DESCRIPTION (Continued)	17 OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior) <p>The Methodist Episcopal parsonage has a three-bay front-facing gable with right and left gabled ells. The right entry is protected by a one-story shallow-roofed porch with turned posts, simple curved brackets, and a cut-out slat railing resembling turned balusters. The porch covers only the entry bay on the facade and wraps around the right elevation to meet a side entry in the front wall of the right ell. Windows have plain board surrounds and are fitted with 1-over-1 sash. All three main peaks have small round-headed attic lights and modified fishscale shingles.</p>	
	18 ARCHITECT BUILDER	

SIGNIFICANCE	19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE <p>The Methodist Episcopal parsonage is significant as a modest but well-preserved example of Victorian Vernacular housing. The characteristic ornamental woodwork of the style, made affordable by 19th-century technological advances in saws, lathes, drills and other basic tools, is seen here in the porch design and in the decorative shingles of the gable peaks.</p> <p>The parsonage is also significant for its connection with the Methodist Episcopal Church, a longtime cultural and religious institution in East Berlin. Both the parsonage and the church were built in 1896, during the years of peak expansion at the nearby Berlin Iron Bridge Company. The church replaced an earlier building erected in 1877.</p>	
	21 RESEARCH <p>Berlin Land Records 41:3(1876); 44:70(1896) Trumbull, II, p. 20</p>	